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TALL SHIPS NOVA SCOTIA

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Ship Ahoy!



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Nova Scotia in the spotlight

**JON
TATTRIE**
For Metro

The Tall Ships are returning to Nova Scotia this year and the popular festival is bigger than ever.

The mostly free event runs in Halifax from July 19-23, and features about 40 ships from all over North America. There will also be fireworks, concerts, food, and other events.

"We are showcasing the best of Nova Scotia history, culture, music, cuisine and family programming throughout the Tall Ships event," says Colin MacLean,

president and CEO of the Waterfront Development Corporation. "With the amazing backdrop of the majestic Tall Ships, we are proud to show the best of who we are as a city, province and people."

The theme this year is the War of 1812. Parks Canada will also put on programming on the wharves by the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and Citadel Hill.

Taking advantage of the time-shifting presence of the Tall Ships, the interactive activities will look back to a war some say played a key role in forming Canada.

"The War of 1812 was a turning point in Canada's

1,300 elephants

- The Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012 vessels range in weight from 27 tons to 1,800 tons, and have a combined weight that totals more than 6,500 Gross Register Tonnage (GRT). During the Parade of Sail, this astonishing steel and wood tonnage will pack the Halifax Harbour. That's comparable to the weight of approximately 1,300 elephants.

history and Parks Canada is proud to ... bring this history alive," says Dave Danskin, vis-

itor experience manager with Parks Canada. "Visitors will have the chance to step back in time to 1812 through a variety of interactive activities."

Members of the public will also get a rare chance to visit Georges Island in Halifax Harbour for a largely sold-out concert from Newfoundland's Hey Rosetta! on July 21. The island will be open again the next day, Sunday, for historic tours.

It's free to stroll along the waterfront and admire the ships from land, and a \$5 day pass lets you board all of the ships. Children younger than 12 are free when accompanied by an adult.



Ships from all over North America sail in Tall Ships events. METRO HALIFAX FILE PHOTO



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Beat the crowds. Your Tall Ship to-do list

JON
TATTRIE
For Metro

The jam-packed schedule of the Tall Ships festival can make it tough to know which events are must-see, so Metro spoke with organizer Jennifer Angel about the things she has on her to-do list.

In the tradition of Nova Scotian hospitality, Angel starts by making sure you are well fed. The festival is partnering with Taste of Nova Scotia with "Food Fare by the Sea" next to Bishops Landing. Celebrity chefs and local restaurateurs will serve some of the ocean-themed dishes for which the province is famous.



Approximately 94,000 people took in the Tall Ships Nova Scotia Festival 2009. There are many events to keep you busy this year. CONTRIBUTED

There is music, too, at the CBC pavilion. It will offer free entertainment and nautical-themed music throughout

the festival.

On Saturday, it will put on the ticketed Tall Ships Symphony. That will feature

Symphony Nova Scotia, Old Man Luedecke, David Myles and Rose Cousins performing the 2012 Overture, Ships and Flags. The symphony will also put on a rollicking version of the 1812 Overture.

Casino Nova Scotia is hosting "A Band on Ship" (remove the spaces to get the pun) with free concerts inside and out at the casino.

Each evening will conclude with fireworks.

"It's a really deep program," Angel says.

She also flags a Sunday visit to Georges Island. Animators and re-enactors will provide interpretive tours of the fortified harbour base. Cross back to Halifax for the War of

More ports

- Following the five-day event in Halifax/Dartmouth from July 19-23, the Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012 fleet will sail to five additional ports around the province: Lunenburg (July 25-26); Port Hawkesbury (July 25-26); Shelburne (July 28-29); Pictou (July 28-29); and Pugwash (July 28-29).

1812 "sunset ceremony" on Citadel Hill.

Dartmouth is on board for the festival, too, offering Pirates Landing as its part of KidzZone. This year, a haunt-

ed pirate house will thrill children. For \$2, Theodore Tugboat will ferry you over to the Halifax KidZone.

"It's a truncated version of the big harbour tour," Angel says of the crossing.

The Al Fresco Film Festo is getting nautical with the "Arr Fresco Film Festo" of sea-themed movies at its usual outdoors location near the Nova Scotia Power headquarters on the Halifax waterfront.

Oh, yeah — and there are ships, too.

"The interesting thing about the ships this time around is that they fit within the 1812 commemorative banner," Angel says.



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The Dutch Tall Ship Europa, left, and the Tall Ship Concordia took part in the Tall Ships Nova Scotia Festival 2009. METRO HALIFAX FILE PHOTO

A shipload of economic return

Impact. More than \$30 million expected to be generated from Tall Ships and its various events

RICHARD
WOODBURY
For Metro

As a marquee event, the Tall Ships generate large economic impacts in both Halifax and across Nova Scotia.

"We know that by virtue of the event being an enormous tourist attraction that many people will travel to Nova Scotia to the Tall Ships," says Colin MacLean, the president and CEO of the Waterfront Development Corporation Limited (WDCL).

The last time the Tall Ships came to town was 2009 and that event generated an economic impact of almost \$33 million across the province, with the lion's share — more than \$18 million — coming from Halifax.

MacLean says the goal this year is to exceed the numbers from 2009.

To get an accurate idea of the economic activity the Tall Ships generates, WDCL hires an economist who surveys visitors at the waterfront. People are asked questions

such as where they are from and how much they are planning on spending while in Nova Scotia.

MacLean says WDCL is cautious about not overestimating the economic impacts. For example, one of the questions asked is what motivation the Tall Ships played in visiting Nova Scotia. The significance of the motivation is taken into account when calculating the economic impact.

"We take that and multiply it against the money they spend, so it's not overestimating the thing," says MacLean.

This also means the emphasis is on calculating money coming from outside

the region, as opposed to the downtown office worker who is out on their lunch break or someone from another part of Nova Scotia.

In 2009, 94,000 people from outside Nova Scotia "came in part or in large part because of Tall Ships," says MacLean.

While the Tall Ships will be in Halifax from July 19-23, afterwards, some will head to the Nova Scotian ports of Lunenburg, Port Hawkesbury, Pictou, Pugwash and Shelburne, while some will head off for their next adventure.

The visits to the other Nova Scotian ports help spread the economic impact across the province.



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Water, water, everywhere?

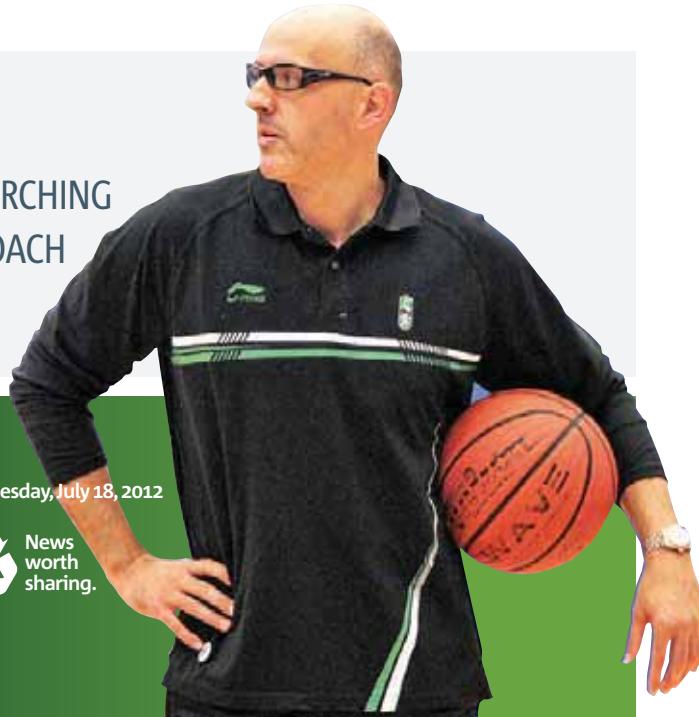
Free water taps for this week's Tall Ships festival should prove popular if the humid weather continues. One Halifax councillor is even talking about making them a permanent fixture on the waterfront

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PEP TALK

HALIFAX RAINMEN START SEARCHING FOR A NEW LEADER AS EX-COACH PEP CLAROS APPEARS SET TO SAY ADIOS

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Wednesday, July 18, 2012



And they call it puppy love

FedEx pups. Animal-rescue official hopes story will draw attention to other dogs in need of a home

KATE HOWELL
Halifax@metronews.ca

People are lining up to adopt the 60 dogs transported to Halifax from the Happy Valley-Goose Bay SPCA, but the rescue team reminds hopeful owners there are other animals out there that need saving.

Shelley Cunningham, president of Litters 'n Critters Animal Rescue, is overjoyed by the public response to the dogs' plight. But she hopes it sheds light on a bigger problem across the province.

"There are so many other rescues and shelters that have dogs that need homes," Cunningham said on Tuesday. "If you're looking for a dog, please go to other shelters. There are so many homeless dogs."

On Saturday, FedEx flew the dogs from Newfoundland and Labrador to the Halifax airport. They were evacuated from the Happy Valley-Goose Bay SPCA and, later on, from foster homes due to forest fires in the area.

The rescue mission has generated coverage from news or-

Important advice

"We want to make sure it's people that want dogs that wanted a dog all along instead of people caught up in the hype."

Shelley Cunningham,
Litters 'n Critters Animal Rescue

ganizations across North America, including CNN, and on social media. Litters 'n Critters has received hundreds of adoption applications. Currently being looked after in foster homes in and around the HRM area, many pups have already found a permanent home with their foster caregivers.

That's the case for Rodney Habib, owner of Planet Paws in Dartmouth, now the proud owner of Pux, a female puppy he was fostering. Planet Paws and Funky Monkey Ice Hut are hosting a meet-and-greet with the adopted puppies from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. All proceeds will be donated to Litters 'n Critters to help spay and neuter the dogs.

"It'll be a pretty big day, with the puppies and the community being able to show their support and buy some ice cream and help these animals," said Habib, an owner of three dogs now.

Dozens of puppies and eight adult dogs are still available for adoption.



Rodney Habib, owner of Planet Paws in Dartmouth, cuddles with Pux, one of the many Labramushkadooodle puppies rescued from Labrador over the weekend. Pux is a FedEx delivery code that means "pickup exception." JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO



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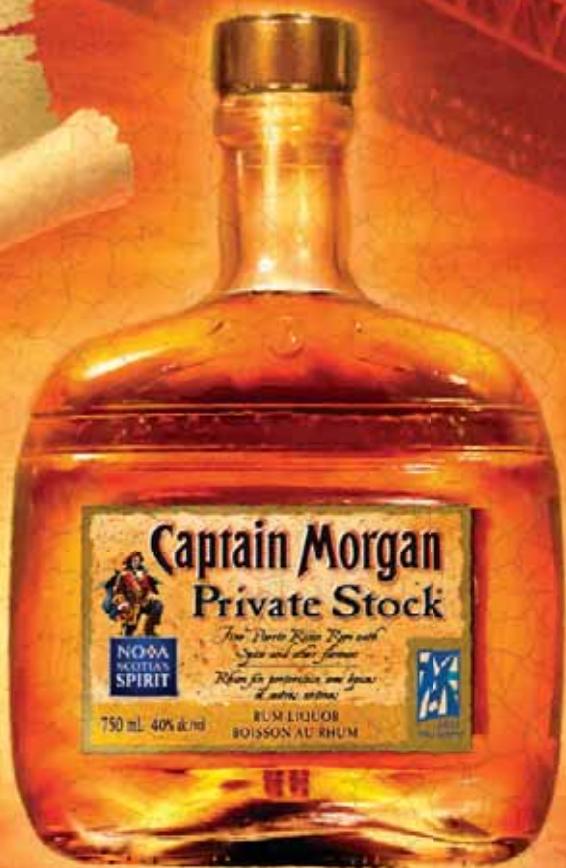
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Murder case

Halifax man given a conditional sentence

A Halifax man facing a charge of accessory to murder after the fact in the killing of Corey Duane Lucas won't be serving prison time.

Simon Peter Dugas, 27, was initially charged with first-degree murder in relation to the Lucas case. But a day after that murder charge was laid, it was reduced to the lesser offence of accessory after the fact.

On Tuesday at Nova Scotia Supreme Court, Dugas was given a conditional sentence of two years less a day for the charge, to be served in the community under witness protection.

As part of the agreed upon sentence that came Tuesday following his guilty plea, Dugas is banned from being in possession of weapons and ammunition.

According to an agreed statement of facts published Tuesday by the CBC, Chief Justice Joseph Kennedy opted against jail time for Dugas because of his co-operation with police during the case.

The statement of fact reads Dugas assisted in the disposing of evidence, including the gun allegedly used in the murder, and a bloody shirt.

Jason Matthew Halsey, 27, and Dylan Peter Roach, 20, are both charged with first-degree murder and attempted murder in the case.

Jenna Karlene Piercy, 27, has also been charged with accessory after the fact.

Lucas, 36, was gunned down in an apartment at 2711 Clifton St. May 25, and another 31-year-old man was shot, but survived and was later released from hospital.

KATE HOWELL/FOR METRO



Pedestrians walk past a water tap installed by Halifax Water on the Halifax waterfront for the Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Free water tapping into a good idea?

Quoted

"On a business side (it's not a benefit), but I like free water."

Hannah Soder, who works at Waterfront Pizza and Wraps
On how the free taps probably cut into their water sales; business is brisk on hot days

Relief. Shower will also be installed to help volleyball players at the FIVB championship cool off



JENNIFER TAPLIN

jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Free water on the Halifax waterfront is a big attraction.

Halifax Water recently installed four water-tap stations along the waterfront for this week's Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012 event for people to fill up their water containers and beat the heat. Each station has three blue water taps.

According to Halifax Water spokesman James Campbell,

the water taps have been a very good investment.

"They're pretty well booked up," he said.

They were purchased in advance of the Canoe Sprint World Championships on Lake Banook in 2009. Since then, they've been used at the Jazz Fest, Blue Nose marathon and the FIVB beach-volleyball championships, among other events.

Community groups apply to Halifax Water for the taps and the water commission in-

stalls them. The only issue is Halifax Water is not allowed to give water away, so the lines are metered and event organizers pay for the water used.

And they're very popular. Campbell said the water taps are used at community events from June to September.

Downtown Coun. Dawn Sloane has received comments from residents about making the taps permanent fixtures on the waterfront.

"I'd love to see it too," she

said. "When I was a kid, all over the downtown core we had water fountains."

It helps with episodes of heat exhaustion as well as cutting down on the environmental impacts of bottled water.

Council has discussed, although it was a while ago, installing more public water fountains. Sloane said it could make it back on the agenda.

Jennifer Angel with the Waterfront Development Corp. said they haven't considered making the taps permanent but it is a possibility.

"This installation for tall ships, as well as with the FIVB last year — it gives us a good chance to test it," she said. "We're open to trying new things."

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NEWS

On the web

Make your mark with the moonwalk

Think you've got Michael Jackson's moves? Here's your chance to prove it, says music legend Berry Gordy, who will bring Motown's most influential singers to Broadway. Go to metronews.ca to read more about the making of the musical.

Mobile news



Who needs the fire brigade when all you really require these days is a neighbour with arms of steel. Scan the code to see how a heroic man rescued a girl who fell from her third-floor apartment.



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Crew members on the American vessel Unicorn tie up the sails on Tuesday in Halifax. The Unicorn was the first tall ship to arrive in Halifax Harbour for Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012, which starts Thursday. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Unicorn leads the sail into harbour

Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012. The first tall ship in for popular festival was a 110-foot American schooner

 JENNIFER TAPLIN
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At 13, Ohio native Ava Wentzel is an experienced tall-ship deckhand.

"Sometimes we have to climb up the (29-metre-tall) mast, but I don't because I'm not a fan of heights, but everything else I'm pretty good at," she said.

The Unicorn, a U.S.-based teaching tall ship, sailed into Halifax Harbour out of

the mist Tuesday morning. She's the first vessel to arrive for Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012, which runs Thursday through Monday at the Halifax and Dartmouth waterfronts.

"It was really foggy and I couldn't see much at first but then I saw the green and hills — it's very pretty," she said of her first glimpse of Halifax. "I like it."

It's Wentzel's second run on board the tall ship. Her first was last year just as she turned 13 and sailed from Newport, R.I., to Boston. She said all she needed to know she learned fast in a day or two.

"So now I know what I'm doing, and it's better."

The ship's captain, Denise Meagher, said it's extraordinary to see the

Arrivals

Here are the scheduled arrivals for some of the over 20 vessels coming for Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012. The event runs Thursday through Monday.

• Arrived on Tuesday: Unicorn, Larinda

changes in the girls after a few weeks at sea.

"You're responsible to and for each other on board a ship in ways you just aren't when you're growing up on land," she said.

The six students on board are aged 13 to 19 and are accompanied by a crew of eight, including the captain. Meagher said the stu-

dents do everything from cleaning the heads (bathrooms) to navigating the ships. Some have sailing experience when they step on board and some don't.

"These girls on the ship right now have all been on before. One girl has signed up four times because she loves it so much," Meagher said.



Ava Wentzel, a 13-year-old from Berea, Ohio, ties off some ropes on Unicorn. JEFF HARPER/FOR METRO

Sailing excursions last between one to three weeks and cost upwards of \$1,000 a week. The Unicorn, which sailed this time from Boston to Halifax, winters in Connecticut.

The ship received a lot of attention on the Halifax waterfront Tuesday morning as it refuelled near the Nova Scotia Power building

before sailing to her berth next to Historic Properties, but the students were too exhausted from the around-the-clock shifts while at sea to notice much.

"I think they're more tired than anything," Meagher said.

"They will be excited once they get over being tired."

Halifax man has bike stolen on cross-Canada trip

A thief stole Coady Lee's bike and everything he's called home for the last two and a half months Monday afternoon in Gatineau, Que., right in front of security cameras.

Lee and a friend are on a cross-Canada bike trip to his home in Halifax that began in Tofino, B.C., in May.

He packed up to leave the National Capital Region Sunday and then stopped for a few hours at the Museum of Civilization.

"I locked my bike up in

the courtyard, but when I came out the bike and everything on it was gone, with my lock cut on the ground," he said.

The bike was loaded up with Lee's camping gear and everything he needed for his trip — and a photo he takes with him wherever he goes, of him and his sister Nicole, who passed away when he was 14 years old.

Lee said the photo is a reminder of a happy moment with his sister.

When he first realized

it was gone he was afraid, but now he knows he can remember her without it, he said.

He doesn't expect to get anything back, but since he spoke publicly about the theft, Lee has received offers of support — as well as new bikes and camping gear — from strangers. He's hoping to donate what he can't use to charity.

"I feel like we can help out a lot more people than just me," he said.

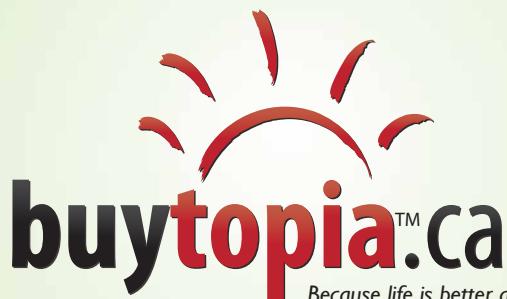
JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN OTTAWA



Surveillance footage from outside the Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Que., shows the bike being stolen. GATINEAU POLICE

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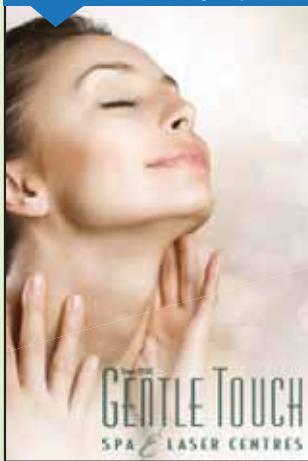
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NewPage. 'Little guy' won't be left out of mill vote, court hears

Local suppliers and other small, unsecured creditors owed money from a shuttered paper mill in Cape Breton won't be shut out from the sale of the operation, the monitor handling the transaction said Tuesday.

The sale of NewPage Port Hawkesbury to Vancouver-based Pacific West Commercial returned to Nova Scotia Supreme Court to address several orders, including one dealing with a creditors' meeting next month.

The Aug. 15 meeting in Port Hawkesbury will give secured and unsecured creditors a chance to accept a pro-



NewPage mill in Port Hawkesbury.
CAPE BRETON POST PHOTO

posal on what they're owed.

But Judge John Murphy told court-appointed monitor Ernst & Young on Tuesday that the process seemed needlessly complicated for the unsecured creditor who's owed thousands — not millions — of dollars. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Victim was 17

Accused tells court he doesn't recall stabbing girlfriend

A Cape Breton man charged with second-degree murder testified Tuesday he has no recollection of stabbing his girlfriend more than 100 times on Dec. 3, 2010.

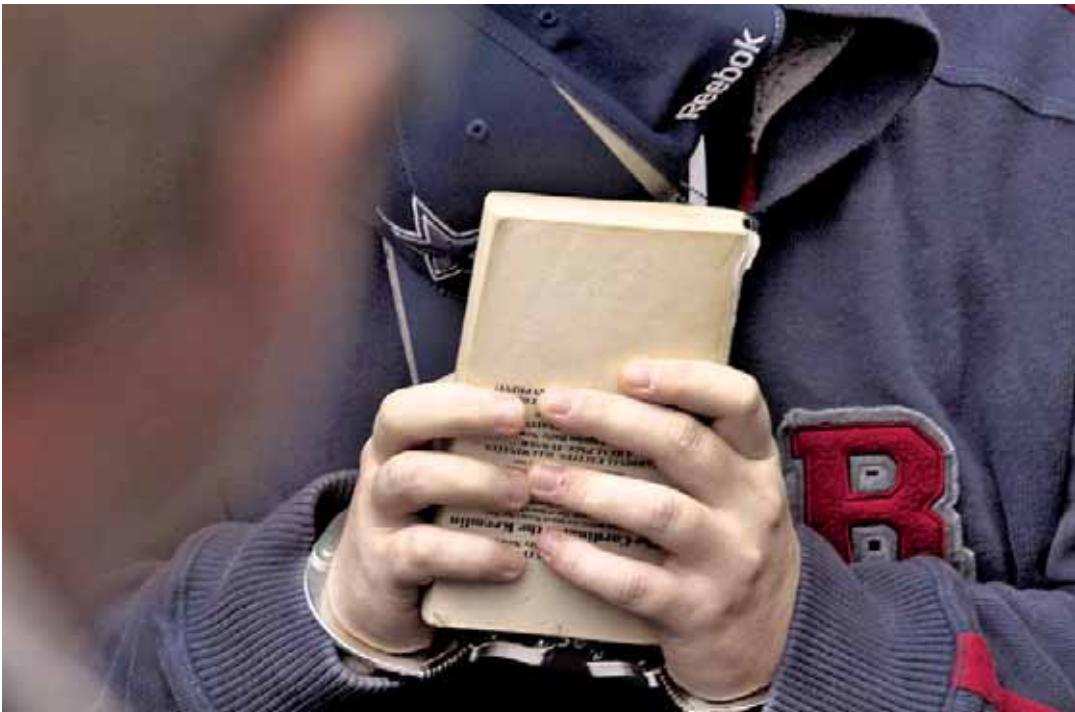
The man, now 18, said he and the 17-year-old girl started dating in October

2010 and that he was very much in love with her.

The name of the accused, who was 16 at the time of the murder, and the victim are prohibited from publication in accordance with the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

In the hours leading up to the murder, the accused said he and his girlfriend had consumed a number of different prescription pills including Tylenol 3 and Rivotril along with drinking moonshine.

CAPE BRETON POST



Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle covers his face with a Tom Clancy spy novel as he heads from provincial court in Halifax on Tuesday. **ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Accused spy chooses judge-and-jury trial

Navy intelligence officer. Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Delisle has been in custody at Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility in Burnside since arrest in January

A Bedford navy intelligence officer accused of espionage has elected to be tried by a judge and jury in Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

A lawyer for Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle was in provincial court in Halifax on Tuesday to make the election for his client, who faces two charges of passing information to a foreign entity that could harm Canada's interests.

Mike Taylor said he and the Crown were trying to come up with dates for a three-day preliminary inquiry, which might not take place until late this fall or early 2013.

Taylor said a trial may not take place until next fall, adding that it's not clear how

Where

- All the offences are alleged to have happened in or near Halifax, Ottawa and Kingston, Ont.

ges of passing information to a foreign entity that could harm Canada's interests.

Mike Taylor said he and the Crown were trying to come up with dates for a three-day preliminary inquiry, which might not take place until late this fall or early 2013.

Taylor said a trial may not take place until next fall, adding that it's not clear how

long a trial in the rare case could last.

"I wouldn't expect it would be in the spring sitting," he said. "It could very easily be in the fall of 2013."

The 41-year-old has yet to enter a plea, and lawyers in the case are expected to return to provincial court Wednesday to set dates for a preliminary hearing.

Court documents say one of the alleged offences happened between July 6, 2007, and Jan. 13, 2012, while the other offence is alleged to have happened between Jan. 10 and Jan. 13 of this year.

A broad publication ban has been imposed on the hearings. Taylor said the

Crown could apply for another ban in Supreme Court. Much of the evidence he has received have been redacted, but he said some have been cleared for release to him as the case has proceeded.

Taylor said he expects there could be at least a couple of dozen witnesses testifying if it goes to trial.

Delisle also faces a breach of trust charge under the Criminal Code that is alleged to have happened between July 6, 2007, and Jan. 13, 2012.

Delisle joined the navy as a reservist in 1996, became a member of the regular forces in 2001 and was promoted to an officer rank in 2008.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Driver uninjured. Pigs killed as truck carrying animal drives into ditch

Highway 102 near Lower Sackville was closed for several hours after a semi-truck carrying a load of pigs drove into a ditch.

Police say the single-vehicle crash happened just before 8:30 p.m. on Monday near Exit 4C.

The truck had gone into a ditch and remained upright, with the driver escaping injury.

However, for some of the close to 160 pigs on the truck, the news wasn't as good.

Animals transferred

- It took several hours to move the pigs to another trailer as the truck was towed away.

Halifax RCMP spokesman Cpl. Scott MacRae said a few of the pigs died due to the impact of the crash, and the stress of the situation.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Montreal arrest

Suspect in Pugwash bank robbery arrested

A 43-year-old man has been arrested in Montreal following a bank robbery in Pugwash earlier this month.

Mark Anthony Whitman of Tatamagouche was arrested last week following a robbery at the Bank of Nova Scotia in Pugwash on July 6.

Police say a man entered the bank and passed a note to the teller demanding cash. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Internet access

Amherst now Wi-Fi'd up

Access to the Internet in downtown Amherst has become easier.

The downtown area of Amherst, along Victoria and Church streets, now has free wireless Internet access. The Internet setup allows for residents and visitors to access the Internet while visiting any of the stores and restaurants in the downtown area. But the access is limited to certain websites. **AMHERST DAILY NEWS**

An environmental group says it is cautiously optimistic after a Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge reserved decision on the group's bid to quash a permit to drill for oil and gas near a Cape Breton lake.

The Margaree Environmental Association's judicial appeal, which contends that the province's environment minister erred in approving the drilling near Lake Ainslie, concluded on Tuesday in Halifax.

Neal Livingston, the group's co-chairman, said

the association is hoping the judge will overthrow the decision that allows Toronto-based Petroworth Resources to drill a conventional oil and gas well near the freshwater lake in the centre of the island.

"I think our case is quite strong," said Livingston outside the courtroom.

"If our case isn't strong, it would appear to me that the next step the minister could take would be to allow somebody to drill inside somebody's house and inside their drinking-water well."

Time frame

- It could take months before Judge David MacAdam delivers his ruling, the group's lawyer, Derek Simon, told reporters.

"They can't get any closer than this case."

The group's legal argument centred on environmental restrictions that prohibit drilling within 100 metres of a water course.

Derek Simon, the group's

lawyer, told the court there is a brook less than 50 metres from the drill site that empties into a wetland and eventually into Lake Ainslie.

But the government has classified it as a man-made drainage ditch and therefore does not consider it a water course.

A lawyer for the Environment Department argued that if the judge does find fault with the minister's decision, an appropriate decision would be to amend the terms and conditions of the drilling permit. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Judge reserves ruling on oil-drilling appeal

Job Fund outspends the maligned IEF



Economic and Rural Development and Tourism Minister Percy Paris

METRO FILE PHOTO

Fund allocation. Bulk of money earmarked for Irving Shipbuilding



ALEX BOUTILIER

alex.boutilier@metronews.ca

The fund touted as a more accountable version of the much-maligned Industrial Expansion Fund has committed more than \$396 million of public money since its inception.

Ten funding announcements for the Nova Scotia Jobs Fund since Feb. 14 total \$371.1 million. Most of that money is earmarked for Irving Shipbuilding, which will benefit from

\$304 million over the 30-year life of the multibillion-dollar federal shipbuilding contracts. Even when the Irving deal is excluded, the Jobs Fund still committed \$28.2 million more than the IEF did in 2011.

Economic and Rural Development and Tourism Minister Percy Paris, who introduced the Jobs Fund legislation, said he considers the money well spent.

"I see this as a good thing," Paris told Metro Tuesday.

"When I look at the businesses that we've attracted to the province in the last 18 months, I think they're significant."

Criticized by opposition parties as a slush fund for cabinet

Reaction

"Does (the total) surprise me? I'm going to say yes and no.... There was lots of room for (economic) growth."

Economic and Rural Development and Tourism minister Percy Paris

Trenton (\$59.3 million), and Northern Pulp (\$75 million) benefited most from that funding.

Paris said he believes the Jobs Fund is more accountable, citing an appointed board that provides investment advice to the government. He conceded, however, that the final spending decision still rests with cabinet, as with the IEF.

Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil said he doesn't believe Nova Scotians are getting a return on their investment.

"We committed money to Bowater; it's closed. We commit money to Scanwood; it's closed. We committed money to Imperial Oil; it's closing," McNeil said.

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Syria. Violent clashes spreading in Damascus

Intense clashes between Syrian rebels and government forces backed by helicopters spread to new areas of the capital Damascus Tuesday, including a brief fire fight near Parliament. It was the third straight day of fighting that has posed an unprecedented challenge to government rule in the seat of President Bashar Assad's power.

The violence is the most widespread and sustained fighting in the capital since the Syrian uprising began 16 months ago.

Terrified families were fleeing the city or said they were prepared to leave at a moment's notice. Residents said they were packing "get-away bags" in case they had to run for their lives.

"My bag has my family's passports, our university degrees, some cash and medicine," said a 57-year-old father of two told The Associated Press, asking that his first name not be used for fear of

Videos

An amateur video showed two armoured personnel carriers with heavy machine guns on top along with troops who were said to be advancing in an empty road toward Midan.

- Another video showed a military helicopter flying over the Damascus neighbourhood of Qaboun. The authenticity of the videos could not be independently verified.

reprisals. "It is very hard to imagine leaving your home and everything you worked to get, but it's a matter of life and death."

The clashes broke up quickly as the rebels fled, but were a significant indicator of the rapidly spreading violence and the deep reach of the rebels. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Nasa Indians demand soldiers stay off their land

Nasa Indians drag off a soldier in Toribio, southern Colombia, Tuesday. Dozens of Indians attacked half-a-dozen soldiers guarding communication towers on the outskirts of the town. Indians have demanded that security forces and leftist rebels stay off their land. **WILLIAM FERNANDO MARTINEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Pakistan. WHO doctor working with anti-polio campaign hit by gunfire



Pakistani health worker Naela Emanuel gives a polio vaccine to a child in a Christian neighborhood in Islamabad Tuesday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Gunmen in the Pakistani city of Karachi opened fire Tuesday on a vehicle carrying a doctor working with the World Health Organization on an anti-polio campaign, wounding him in the stomach, the organization said.

The head of the World Health Organization's polio-eradication program in Pakistan, Dr. Elias Dury, said the doctor is an international volunteer helping supervise the project. He said the man underwent surgery in Karachi.

Pakistan is in the middle of a campaign to vaccinate children under five. Taliban militants in northern Pakistan have barred the vaccination campaign from territory under their control, saying it can't go forward until the U.S. stops drone strikes.

In a statement, WHO said the attack did not appear to be specifically targeting the doctor.

"At this point, there is no

Draft feud divides Israel's coalition

Military. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu loses key Kadima Party votes

Opposition

"We are going back with our heads held high to lead the nation in the opposition."

Kadima Party Leader Shaul Mofaz

evidence to suggest that this was a deliberate or targeted attack against polio-eradication efforts or WHO," the Geneva-based organization said.

Pakistan is one of only three countries where the disease is endemic. The virus usually infects children living in unsanitary conditions, attacks the nerves, and can kill or paralyze.

The moderate Kadima Party voted to pull out of the government just two months after joining. The move appeared to push the country closer to early

faz had brought the party into the coalition to work with Netanyahu on ending a contentious, decades-old system that has granted draft exemptions to tens of thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jewish seminary students. But with a court-ordered Aug. 1 deadline looming, the sides were unable to forge a compromise.

Mofaz said he tried to forge a "new social contract," but was presented with "red lines" that

couldn't be crossed.

Kadima is the largest party in Israel's parliament, winning one more seat than Netanyahu's Likud Party in the last election, but it was left outside the government when Netanyahu set up his original hard-line team.

The draft exemptions have caused widespread resentment among Israel's secular majority, who are required to perform two to three years of compulsory service. Ultra-Orthodox leaders have been equally adamant in their refusal to compromise, claiming their young men serve the nation through prayer and study.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guantanamo Bay

Judge won't budge on bombing trial

The U.S. military judge presiding over the war-crimes trial of a Guantanamo Bay prisoner charged in the deadly attack on the USS Cole rejected a motion Tuesday that he remove himself from the case. Lawyers for Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri said they don't believe army Col. James Pohl can be impartial. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

NATO troop supplies

Pakistan poised to sign deal with U.S.

The U.S. and Pakistan are close to signing an agreement regulating the flow of NATO troop supplies in and out of Afghanistan, codifying a somewhat informal arrangement that has fuelled the Afghan war over the past decade, U.S. officials said Tuesday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Air force sex scandal goes to trial

A U.S. military jury Tuesday began hearing the case of an air force sergeant who faces the most serious charges in a widening sex scandal at the base where every American airman reports for basic training.

Staff Sgt. Luis Walker is among 12 instructors at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas who are being investigated, and faces the most serious charges — 28 counts, includ-

ing rape, aggravated sexual contact and multiple counts of aggravated sexual assault. He could get up to life in prison and a dishonourable discharge if convicted.

Six of the 12 instructors under investigation face charges ranging from rape to adultery. At least 31 female trainees have been identified as victims.

The 10 female recruits

Walker is accused of either sexually assaulting or engaging in inappropriate sexual conduct with are expected to testify.

Maj. Naomi Dennis, one of Walker's attorneys, told jurors there is no evidence to substantiate the charges against Walker and suggested to jurors that the women may have made up the charges.

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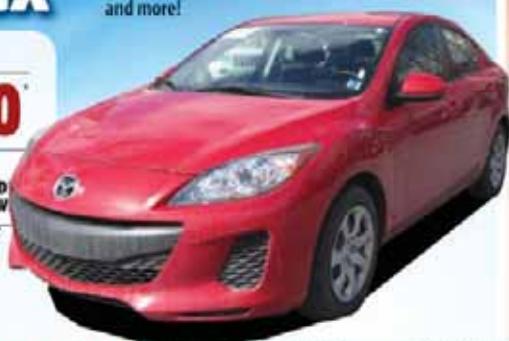
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Again! Another brazen mass shooting shocks T.O.

Two dead, 21 sent to hospital. Horror comes to a crowded block party just weeks after a mall shooting left the city reeling

A mass shooting left Canada's biggest city in shock Tuesday.

The searing hail of bullets at a Toronto neighbourhood block party killed two people and sent 21 others to hospital, including a 22-month-old toddler.

One of the two people killed was identified as 14-year-old Shyanne Charles of Toronto.

Police say it's the worst gun violence in the city's recent history — and they believe it was gang related.

More grimly, they suspect deadly retaliation to take place and were sending reinforcements to the racially diverse area Tuesday.

More than 200 people were at the barbecue party in the city's east end Monday



Neighbours watch as police investigate at the shooting scene Tuesday. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

night when gunmen sprayed the crowd with bullets.

Tears shone in one man's eyes as he said: "I saw people running, I heard 'crack, crack' and I hit the ground.

"It was like a Quentin Tarantino movie."

Mayor Rob Ford called it a "horrible tragedy" but added: "I know this is the safest city in the world. I've always said that, I truly believe it."

Police Chief Bill Blair said police have received "some co-operation" from witnesses, and called on all community members who attended the party to help with the investigation.

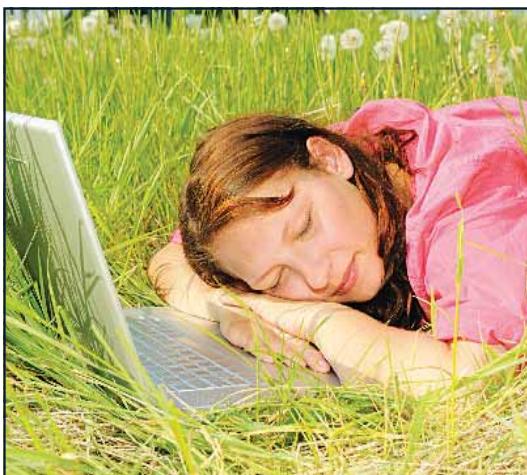
Messages of grief quickly appeared on social media.

"The hood gained another angel to look over us, RIP," one person wrote on Twitter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Shyanne Charles was shot dead. She was just 14. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Activists angered. Scout leaders in U.S. refuse to drop ban on gays

After a confidential two-year review, the Boy Scouts of America on Tuesday emphatically reaffirmed its policy of excluding gays.

The Scouts cited support from parents as a key reason for keeping the policy and expressed hope the prolonged debate over it might subside.

Bitter reactions from gay-rights activists suggested that was unlikely.

The Scouts' national spokesperson, Deron Smith, said an 11-member special committee decided the exclusion policy "is absolutely the best policy" for the 112-year-old organization.

The Scouts' chief executive, Bob Mazzuca, contended most Scout families support the policy, which applies to both adult leaders and Scouts.

But the president of the largest U.S. gay-rights group, Chad Griffin of the Human Rights Campaign, called the Scouts' decision "a missed opportunity of colossal proportions."

"With the country moving toward inclusion, the leaders of the Boy Scouts of America have instead sent a message



Jennifer Tyrrell, with son Cruz, was ousted as a Cub Scout den mother because she's gay. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

to young people that only some of them are valued," he said.

"They've chosen to teach division and intolerance."

One ongoing protest campaign involves Jennifer Tyrrell, the Ohio mother of a seven-year-old Cub Scout who was ousted as a den mother because she is lesbian.

A report says more than 300,000 people have signed a petition urging the Scouts to reinstate Tyrrell.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bomb threat. Accusation enrages border agents

1,300 jobs to go

The Canada Border Services Agency announced cuts of about 1,300 jobs across Canada in April — including about 300 jobs in Southern Ontario.

the bomb threat had "something to do" with announced job cuts at the Canada Border Services Agency.

Jason McMichael, vice-president of the Customs and Immigration Union, said he was outraged at the allegations.

"Certainly they were completely baseless, completely without merit."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Powder' in envelope

Magnotta mail sparks shutdown

An envelope addressed to murder suspect Luka Rocco Magnotta caused a major shutdown at a bustling Canada Post sorting centre in Montreal.

A union local official said police found a white powdery substance inside the envelope.

The incident prompted a

lockdown at the centre and four employees were treated for psychological reactions, the union official said.

A police spokesperson said later that the substance was not considered dangerous.

A few hours later, however, a post office in the Montreal-area community of Ste-Julie was evacuated after staffers found a suspicious powder inside a bin that came from the Montreal sorting centre.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian credit card users may face higher costs

Extra fees. Canadian retailers currently absorbing transaction charges when customers use their Visa or MasterCard

Canadian shoppers who use credit cards may soon find themselves slapped with extra fees, if retailers win a fight against being stuck with transaction charges from Visa and MasterCard.

Retail organizations renewed their calls Tuesday for Ottawa to loosen credit card regulations following a landmark ruling south of the border that could have implications for a case that will be decided by a federal tribunal later this year.

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB), which has more than 100,000 member businesses across Canada, is calling for changes to the federally regulated code of conduct that would allow retailers more rights, including the ability to make credit card users pay a surcharge or refuse credit cards at their stores.

If successful, their campaign would settle a gripe between retailers and credit card operators, and allow merchants the freedom to either accept or deny certain credit cards at their registers.

The CFIB wants merchants to have the ability to add surcharges on credit card users that would counteract the transaction fees charged by some credit card companies.

Currently Visa and MasterCard rules state that mer-

Settlement

- Last week, a landmark settlement in the United States between Visa, MasterCard and merchants thrust the debate back into the spotlight in Canada.
- The two credit card companies reached an agreement to pay U.S. retailers at least \$6 billion US to settle a long-running lawsuit that alleged the card issuers conspired to fix the fees that stores pay to accept credit cards.

chants cannot levy any surcharges on credit card users, forcing retailers to absorb the cost of usage themselves.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Taking on big pharma with little mice

Michel Vandenbosch, head of the animal-rights group Gaia, displays some fake mice as he stages a protest in front of a local branch of the international pharmaceutical company Ipsen, in Merelbeke, Belgium, on Tuesday. Protesters are demanding that Ipsen stop using mice for testing its Botox brand. YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Borrowing benchmark

BoC maintains low interest rate

Low borrowing costs will remain for a while longer after the Bank of Canada moved Tuesday to keep interest rates low. As expected, the bank kept its benchmark policy setting at one per cent until at least the next policy meeting in September, but tellingly also maintained its bias toward tightening monetary policy in the future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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SPAM – ONE OF THE WORLD'S WONDERS



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Let the bells ring out! Let the banners fly! It's the 75th anniversary of Spam, the canned lunch meat that tastes like dog food. (Quickly, lest the Hormel

people get offended, we're talking high-quality dog food.) Back in the dietary Dark Ages, I literally grew up on the stuff and its legion of imitators (Spork, etc.). The gelatinous goop that came with it made me gag, but vapourized nicely when the Spam was fried, and fried Spam and fried eggs with fried potatoes was a common staple, along with anything else that could be fried.

Too often around our house, it resembled that legendary Monty Python sketch set at the Green Midget Café, where all the dishes came with Spam (e.g. Spam, Spam, Spam, Spam, egg and Spam), prompting an outraged customer to ask: "Don't you have anything without Spam in it?" while a band of Vikings belted out a rousing chorus of "Spam! Spam! Spam! Wonderful Spam!"

Not sure how the Vikings ended up in a sketch about Spam.... Oh, those Monty Python guys.

If you have a tender tummy, you might want to skip over this next bit. Spam now comes in 13 varieties, including jalapeno, cheese, hickory smoke and, for a limited time (to cele-

brate the Broadway opening of *Spamalot*), golden honey grail and stinky French garlic.

Of course, classic Spam is allegedly composed of pork shoulder and ham, heavy on the shoulder, light on the ham."

While fastidious vegan locavores may turn up their noses, people in Guam can't get enough Spam, consuming more than 16 cans per person per year, according to that estimable journal of record, Time magazine. Sadly, 60 per cent of deaths in Guam are directly attributable to poor diet and lifestyle. Score one for fastidious vegan locavores.

For those who can't get enough of this stuff, there's the annual Spam Jam in Honolulu, another Spam hotspot. The 10th annual edition was held on April 28, where aficionados chowed down on Spam-fried rice loco moco or Spam nachos at Jimmy Buffett's.

Hey, it's a lifestyle. Just not a long one.



Spam, the often-maligned classic canned lunch meat, fits deliciously into frugal grocery budgets. DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

Come on, just grin and bear it



STEVE MORGAN/GREENPEACE

Environment campaign

'Polar bear' arrest at U.K. gas station

This "polar bear" activist got a frosty reception from police after Greenpeace targeted Shell gas stations in Edinburgh and London.

Campaigners believe the Arctic ecosystem is being threatened by oil exploration. Greenpeace said it used an emergency shut-off switch to stop gas to the pumps at one station in Scotland.

METRO

One side says ...

"An oil spill in the Arctic would be catastrophic for wildlife such as walruses and whales. The Arctic must be saved and made a global sanctuary where oil drilling is banned."

Sara Ayech, climate and oil campaigner at Greenpeace

The other side says ...

"Shell recognizes that certain organizations are opposed to our exploration program Offshore Alaska and we respect the right of individuals and organizations to engage in a free and frank exchange of views about our operations."

Spokesperson for Shell

Arctic's arsenal

- Hunting for oil.** Shell is due to begin drilling at two offshore sites in the Alaskan Arctic in the coming weeks. Russian oil giant Gazprom is also venturing into the Arctic this year.
- Untapped resources.** The Arctic holds 13 per cent of Earth's undiscovered oil reserves and 30 per cent of its undiscovered natural gas, the U.S. Geological Survey says.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What would you do if your Internet went down for the day?



Twitter

@Gamburlee_: I think Halifax should have more trash cans so people will actually have places to throw there trash, Halifax would be MUCH cleaner.

@eastcoastkto:

You can tell who's a local and who's a tourist by how fast they move along the boardwalk. #halifax

@dfalldien:

I think i might quit my job and just travel around Halifax trying

ice cream from various ice cream places! #DeliciousIdeas

@ang_dawson:

Dear dog owners with aggressive dogs, don't let your 10yr old kid hold your dog . #Dartmouth #Halifax

@Nalani500:

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tc • MEDIA

Scene in brief

Simpsons coming to Springfield?

A businessman in Springfield, Ore., says it's time for the city to embrace its most famous fictional residents and create a shopping district with a *Simpsons* theme. Jack Koehler owns Sweety's Frozen Yogurt, and he says business has been up since he put a set of *Simpsons* statues in front of his store. He thinks the city should get involved, and he's proposing that a few blocks of downtown Springfield be turned into a *Simpsons*-themed shopping district. The city's community relations manager, Niel Laudati, tells *KVAL* there's no demand from the public, and he doubts anyone wants to spend tax dollars to license cartoon characters. But Laudati says the city would get behind the idea if it would benefit downtown and if other business owners and the community supported it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Bane is back, recast, reimagined and finally living up to all the hype. HANDOUT/WARNER BROTHERS

The best and worst of Batman

Dark Knight on the rise. It hasn't always been box office brilliance as Metro looks at the Caped Crusader's past



IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Sometimes even villains get a second chance. The *Dark Knight Rises*, the last entry in Christopher Nolan's epic Batman trilogy, digs deep into Caped Crusader lore to reintroduce brawny bad guy Bane.

The abnormally strong antihero first appeared in the comics in 1993 but after a ridiculous appearance in *Batman & Robin* earned the title as the worst onscreen Batman baddie. As a scrawny convict pumped up by a drug known as Venom, he did little except growl and act as the punch line for a bad joke by his creator Dr. Jason Woodrue. "I call this little number Bane," he says. "Bane of humanity!"

The movie killed the Batman franchise for seven years, and it looked like Bane, played by wrestler Jeep Swen-



Ivy proved to be onscreen poison. HANDOUT/WARNER BROTHERS



The Joker became nothing more than a bad joke over time. HANDOUT/ABC

On the web



Who was the best Batman and what did Anne Hathaway do to prepare for her role as Catwoman? Metro delved into the world of the Caped Crusader to mark the release of *The Dark Knight Rises*, in theatres next week. Scan this code or visit metronews.ca/features/the-dark-knight-rises.

On the web



Post-divorce, hope grows for a renewed film career for Katie Holmes

son — Holy haberdashery, Batman who chose his bad lucha libre mask? — would also be relegated to the big scoundrel cemetery in the Sky.

Then Nolan cast Tom Hardy, got rid of the ridiculous mask and gave the brute a second chance. So Bane is back and super-evil, but how do other Batman big-screen baddies stack up on the Bat-scale of finest to vilest?

The Bat's Best

Cesar Romero and Jack Nicholson both played The

Joker, Batman's arch nemesis, but Heath Ledger's Oscar-winning take on the psychotic clown in *The Dark Knight* is the most menacingly memorable.

Burgess Meredith made The Penguin's trademark squawking voice popular, but it was Danny DeVito in *Batman Returns* who really showed what a megalomaniacal monster he really was.

"You're just jealous because I'm a genuine freak and you have to wear a mask," he said. Batman has battled

plenty of female foes buteline fiend Catwoman is the pick of the litter. Whether it's Lee Meriwether meowing, "You're going to see the purr-fect crime, when I get Batman in my claws," or Michelle Pfeiffer wielding a 12-foot bullwhip, the creepy kitty is fun enough for nine lifetimes.

The Winged-One's Worst:

Too many one-liners from Two-Face in *Batman Forever* left critics unable to turn the

other cheek after Tommy Lee Jones's over-the-top performance. As played by Uma Thurman in *Batman & Robin* botanist-turned-eco-terrorist Poison Ivy proved that not even Mother Nature gets it right every time.

If for no other reason than the joke "Ice to see you!" *Batman & Robin*'s cold-blooded killer Mr. Freeze (Arnold Schwarzenegger) makes the worst-of list. The Governor should've been sent to the cooler for his line-readings in this one.



Katie Holmes. ALL IMAGES GETTY PHOTOS

Katie Holmes in another car accident

Katie Holmes may be enjoying her new life as a single mom in New York City, but it has been a bit more unpleasant for her chauffeur.

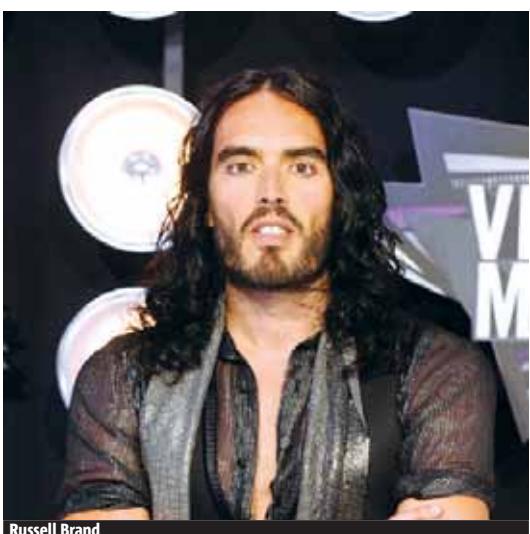
For the second time in a week, Holmes' car was involved in a fender-bender, with the latest incident leaving a huge dent near the car's tail.

Holmes and daughter Suri were leaving Suri's gymnastics class when their

chauffeured Mercedes was struck by a recycling truck near 33rd Street and Sixth Avenue, according to E! News.

No one was injured and a police report was filed once Holmes and daughter were home.

A few days earlier, a paparazzi vehicle hit the Mercedes while it was taking them home from a toy store.



Russell Brand

Russell Brand moving on from Katy Perry

Russell Brand is clearly moving on from soon-to-be ex-wife Katy Perry and is reportedly dating Isabella Brewster, a former talent agent and the younger sister of Dallas star Jordana Brewster, according to Us Weekly.

"It's been going on for a few weeks. He really likes her," a source says. "She's cute. She is all over him and Russell loves it."

Brewster previously dated Bradley Cooper and Heroes star Milo Ventimiglia.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Silverman saving Obama through sexual favours?

THE WORD

Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

Plenty of celebrities are hosting fundraising events for the Obama campaign, from Sarah Jessica Parker's swanky A-list party at her New York City apartment to Gwen Stefani's upcoming family picnic in Los Angeles. But only Sarah Silverman has offered sexual favours in exchange for campaign contributions.

In a short video titled An Indecent Proposal, Silverman — in her trademark cereal-stained hoodie and last-night's ponytail — attempts to persuade



billionaire casino magnate Sheldon Adelson to cancel his \$100 million check to Mitt Romney.

"If you give that \$100 million to Obama instead of Romney, I will — well, I won't have sex with you because we're not married and I'm a nice girl, but I will 'scissor' you wearing a bikini bottom through to fruition," she says.

"You'll be the only elderly billionaire on the block to have traditional lesbian sex through to climax with a girl who had her own show on Comedy Central."

Like all Sarah Silverman skits, it's probably funny if you can keep your eyes open — but we're not risking it.



Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus' brother taken to hospital

Miley Cyrus' younger brother, Braison Cyrus, was rushed to the hospital when he started spitting up blood because of complications from a surgery.

"I got my tonsils out last week," Braison explained to his fans via Twitter. "Not sure what happened exactly but long story short my artery opened and I was (bleeding) a lot. All good now."

Braison's dad, Billy Ray Cyrus, thanked the hospital staff for helping — but not for posting a gruesome photo of his son sitting up in his hospital bed holding a bloody bucket he'd been coughing into.

Sheen making big promises

Charlie Sheen is looking to do some good, vowing to donate one per cent of his profits from his new show, Anger Management, to the USO, a nonprofit that helps members of the U.S. military, according to Hollyscoop.

Sheen has declared he will donate a guaranteed \$1 million, with no upper limit to what he'll donate should profits increase.



The initial million marks the highest donation made to the organization from an individual.

Twitter



@MileyCyrus

How is it legal for men I've never seen before to sit in front of my house and then follow me around! So shady and scary



@YO_RANDYJACKSON

Who in their right mind buys gold shoes...



@ElizabethBanks

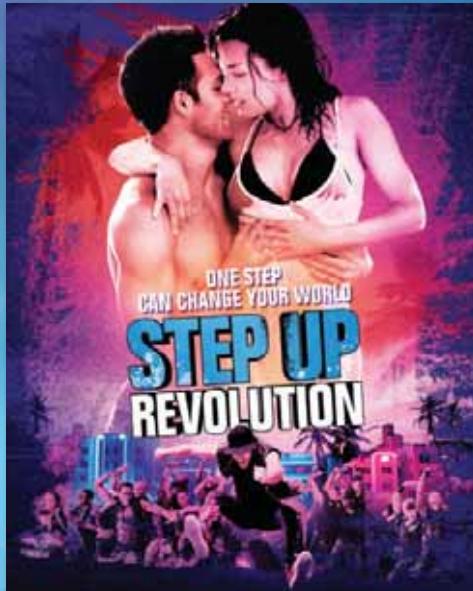
I cannot get enough of the Nestle Crunch Girl Scout Candy Bars!



@SteveMartinToGo

I'll be coming out as gay to promote my next bluegrass album but will return to straight after tour is over.

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3

LIFE

Travel in brief

New Yorkers embracing ferry life

More than one million passengers have ridden ferries across the East River since the service was launched just over one year ago, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Monday. That's more than double in initial projection of 409,000 riders, Bloomberg said as he and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn rode the ferry from North Williamsburg in Brooklyn to Pier 11 in lower Manhattan to mark the milestone. The ferries, which make it fast and easy to reach waterfront businesses, parks and other locations, are popular with tourists as well as locals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web



Everything old is new again: Rodin Museum in Philly is reopening with the same look as in 1929

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Hudson River Park: A destination for recreation

Urban oasis. A group of dedicated New Yorkers have turned a once-derelict patch of Manhattan into a place for outdoor fun

In the past decade, the decrepit piers and industrial zones along eight kilometres of the Hudson River on Manhattan's West Side have been utterly transformed.

Hudson River Park is now a destination that gets 17 million visits annually, with a bike path, green spaces, playgrounds and recreation ranging from mini-golf and skateboarding to kayaking and even stand-up paddleboarding. Melissa Lopez rented a bike a few weeks ago and was amazed at what she saw as she rode downtown through the park.

"It was gorgeous, like a little nature haven, beautiful flowers, trees, and only when you looked over to your left (at the buildings), did you realize you were in between a concrete jungle and this beautiful river," said Lopez, 29, who came in from her home in suburban Westchester for the day. "Everyone was doing something active — sunbathing, rollerblading, bike riding. There was one pier with a volleyball court with sand. I kept asking my boyfriend, 'Are we really in New York City?'"

Lopez's reaction is proof of just how much things have changed along the river. For much of New York City's history, "the waterfront was where the industrial areas were," said Madelyn Wils, president and CEO of the Hudson River Park Trust. "Then in the 1960s, the port business went away and the waterfront areas became so derelict they were an embarrassment. If you saw pictures of what this looked like even 10 years ago, you'd say, 'How could anyone let that happen?'"

Looking at the ribbon of spotless walkways, plantings and creative play areas along the river today between Battery Park City in Lower Manhattan and 59th Street, it's hard to imagine what Wils is describing.

But when she and other New Yorkers began working to create the park in the late 1990s, one of her goals as a mother of three living in Lower Manhattan was simply to make more places where kids could play. In 1998, the city and state provided land for the park, and construction began in 2001.

Last year's opening of Pier 25 in Tribeca, now one of the park's most popular areas with mini-golf and volleyball, was a crowning achievement.

There are still small sections along the water awaiting redevelopment — a pound for towed cars, a facility for Sanitation Department trucks — but the walkways and bike path are uninterrupted. (Wils says the park has "more bikes on the bike paths than anywhere else in the country — 6 million a year.") Between playgrounds, lawns, sports facilities, boating options and other amenities, the park's attractions number in the dozens.

"There are so many different boating opportunities in the park now," said Nancy Brous, metropolitan region director for the Hudson River Watertrail. Many of the programs are run by volunteers to educate New Yorkers who may never have been in a kayak or out on the river before, Brous said, but the walk-up kayaking programs also get "a lot of out-of-town visitors. This is something that's really going to be driving the tourist trade as time goes on and more people seek it out."

Another aspect of the recreational boating programs is teaching the public about the river. It's a tidal estuary, so the currents are strong,



Visitors to Hudson River Park relax on a sculpture. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

and the water can be murky as the tidal flow stirs up silt. "It's not crystal clear and you can't see that deep into it, but it's not pollution," Brous said. "People are very surprised when they learn about the water quality. Just by the birds you can tell it's clean — they're out there and they're catching fish."

Hudson River Park is also home to historic vessels that can be toured; public art like

the AIDS memorial at 11th Street; yoga and other fitness programs; concerts, walks and talks, including a Sunday morning nature tour where participants learn about the park's 85 species of birds. Little wonder the park has started turning up in travel guides to New York City as an option for visitors looking for something to do besides shopping, theatre and museums.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

- Hudson River Park. Battery Park City to 59th Street. Walkway, bike path, playgrounds, sports, boating. Detailed information on activities and calendar of events including fitness classes and concerts, hudsonriverpark.org.


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Get inspired by Asian flavours of bok choy and oyster mushrooms



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The combined flavours of bok choy, mushrooms and this sesame sauce is outstanding.

I use whole oyster mushrooms for appearance as well as texture. Feel free to substitute other mushrooms, but it is best to slice them in large pieces.

I love to serve this alongside a fish or chicken dish.

1. Combine the soy sauce, sesame oil, oyster sauce, sugar, garlic, ginger and chili sauce in a small bowl and set aside.

Ingredients

Sesame Sauce

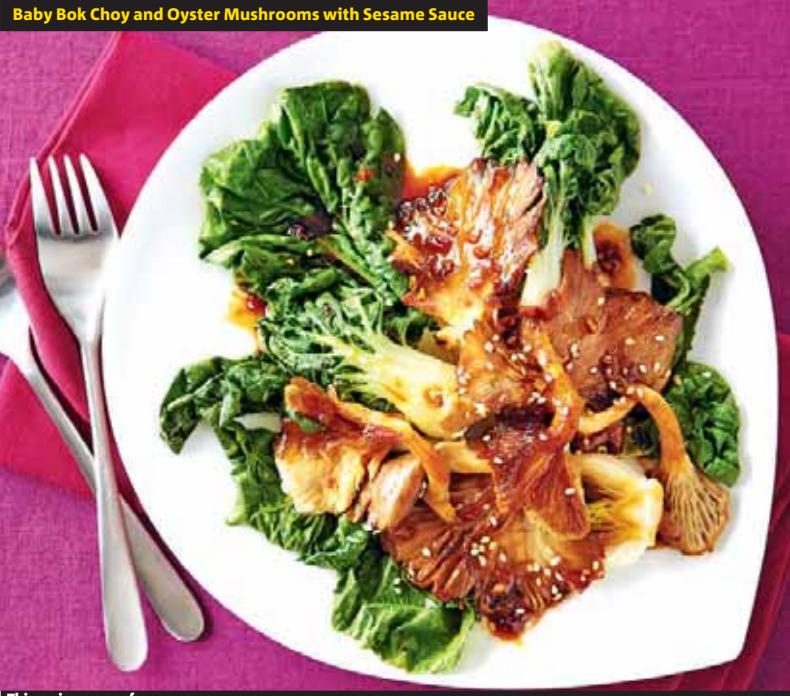
- 1 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- 1 1/2 tsp oyster sauce
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1 tsp finely chopped ginger

2. Lightly coat a large, non-stick skillet with cooking spray, add the oil and set over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and sauté for 5 minutes or until tender. Add the sauce and cook for 2 minutes, until slightly thickened.

3. Place a shallow layer of water in a large saucepan and bring to a boil. Place the bok choy in the saucepan, cover and cook for 2 minutes or just until it is bright green.

4. Drain well and place on a serving dish. Top with the sautéed mushrooms and sesame sauce, sprinkle with sesame seeds and serve immediately. ROSE REISMAN'S FAMILY FAVORITES (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Baby Bok Choy and Oyster Mushrooms with Sesame Sauce



This recipe serves four. RYAN SZULC, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S FAMILY FAVORITES (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Drink of the Week

'You put the lime in the coconut'

This delicious combination makes the perfect drink for those cool summer nights on the patio.

- 375 ml (1.5 cups) coconut milk
- 1 can (250 ml) frozen concentrate margarita mixers
- 250 ml (1 cup) white rum (optional)
- 1 l (4 cups) ice cubes
- 1 lime chopped for glass rim

In a blender, combine coconut milk, margarita frozen concentrate and rum, if using; add ice cubes. Pulse until blended and frothy, about one minute. THE CANADIAN PRESS/BACARDI MIXERS, RUM



Students, don't despair about debt

Getting in the red, without turning red.
Why education pays but BMWs don't

JELEEN YU
TalentEgg.ca

Let's face it. Debt happens.

It's a fact of life that almost all of us will need a little financial help at one point or another, whether it's for our home, car, livelihood, education — even our groceries.

Debt is an inevitable circumstance of life, and, for the most part, it's categorically evil.

But here's the kicker: Debt isn't always such a bad thing.

The basics

Ever heard of good debt?

Yes, it's an oxymoron, strange and it seems mythical at best, but believe it or not there are some things out there worth owing money for.

Here's what's on the "good" list:

- Your home
- Your own business



Apply yourself! Scholarships and bursaries can help to ease the strain of student debt. ISTOCK

- Your education

These are otherwise known as things that will increase in value over time and give you the best bang for your borrowed buck. Because you're borrowing to finance things that won't lose their value (and will actually earn you money in the long-run), this kind of debt is considered good and justifiable.

Bad debt, on the other hand, is money borrowed for things that will de-

preciate in value over time, sometimes even instantly (think: as soon as you leave the store!). Consumable goods like clothes, cars, video games and flat-screen TVs are expendables, as are pricey out-of-town trips you can't afford.

Left unmanaged, this kind of debt could leave you facing years — even decades — of loan payback ahead.

And the worst "bad" debt you can make? Credit card debt, since it usually carries

the highest interest rates and the most onerous payback schedules out there.

Education gives back

Student loans — burdensome as they may seem during payback time — are considered some of the best debts to get into, and for good reason. While we all know the value of a good education, student loans have the potential to give back much more than what they take, and not just in

Loonie loop hole

"In Canada, interest on student loans is tax deductible, so you can at least get some money back from the government, should you file your taxes properly"

Finance blogger Youngandthrifty

terms of job prospects.

"In Canada, interest on student loans is tax deductible, so you can at least get some money back from the government, should you file your taxes properly," says anonymous Vancouver-based finance blogger Youngandthrifty, whose eponymous site (youngandthrifty.ca) aims to encourage better financial health among young Canadians. In other words, government-backed student loans not only increase your future earning potential, they also give you a tax credit on the interest portion of the amount paid on your loan each year.

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4
SPORTS

MLB

"You can't help but think the worst, but bottom line is that I got examined, I got X-rays and an MRI. There's not much structural damage just some irritation around the joint."

Toronto Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista speaking about his injured left wrist on Tuesday in New York. Bautista injured himself after pulling a ball just foul into the left-field seats during Monday's 6-3 loss to the Yankees, but an MRI Tuesday morning found no structural damage.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rainmen's search for new head coach is on

NBL Canada. Josep Claros not expected to return for second season because of family reasons



MATTHEW WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Rainmen are in search of a new head coach.

Although there's still a slight chance Josep (Pep) Claros could be back for a second season, Rainmen owner Andre Levingston said Tuesday it's more much more likely the native of Barcelona will take a year off to be with his family.

Levingston said he plans to have a head coach in place by the first week of August so he can prepare for the National Basketball League of Canada tryout combine on Aug. 25 and 26, and the draft on Aug. 27.

"I have to move forward," Levingston told Metro. "I talked to (Claros) about it and told him I can't wait forever because I need a coach in place for the combine. I'm moving forward with an interview process so I'm prepared (to hire somebody) and not behind the eight ball if he decides not to come back."

Claros, a veteran coach with an impressive international résumé, guided the team to a second-place NBL Canada finish last season, going 23-13. He took the Rainmen to the league's inaugural final before the London Lightning eliminated them in a highlight-

packed five-game series.

Claros, who has two young children including one less than a year old, left immediately after the season ended and coached Pioneros de Quintana Roo to a FIBA Americas League championship.

"If I was a betting man, I would say that Pep will not be returning," Levingston said.

Levingston said replacing Claros will be difficult.

"You're looking for somebody who, first and foremost, is knowledgeable and passionate about the game, but also has the ability to get every ounce out of every player," he said. "Pep was able to do that."

The Rainmen haven't signed anybody for the 2012-13 season but have protected five players: guards Joey Haywood, Taliek Brown and Chris Hagan and forwards Tyrone Levett and Darnell Hugee.

Though it won't be easy, Levingston hopes to re-sign all of them and build around them with an infusion of fresh blood.

"I've really spent a lot of time scouting this summer," Levingston said. "Now, I'm going to start looking for a new head coach who can help us to get to that next level and win a championship."

Leading the Rainmen

4

Number of coaches in the Rainmen's five-year history: Rick Lewis (2007-2009); Les Berry (2009-2011); Mike Evans (2011); Josep (Pep) Claros (2011-2012).



Josep (Pep) Claros, who coached the Halifax Rainmen during the 2011-12 season, shows his players how he wants them to defend during a game. METRO FILE

Mobile sports



In the third week of racing, the Tour de France peloton is worn down. The nervousness of the first week has given way to physical and mental stress. At this point in the race, many of the riders left will simply hope to make it to the finish-line in Paris. Scan the code for the story.

Yakupov headlines Russian squad in under-20 series

Three first-round NHL draft picks highlight Russia's 29-player preliminary roster for August's Canada-Russia Challenge.

Nail Yakupov, taken first overall by the Edmonton Oilers last month, Buffalo Sabres 12th-overall pick Mikhail Grigorenko and Tampa Bay Lightning 19th-overall selection Andrei Vasilevski are on the roster.

The four-game under-20 series commemorating the 1972 Summit Series starts in Yaroslavl, Russia, on Aug. 8 and 9 and then visits the Metro Centre in Halifax on Aug. 13 and 14.

Yakupov, a centre, has spent the past two seasons with the Sarnia Sting of the Ontario Hockey League, com-



Nail Yakupov BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

piling 170 points in 107 games. Grigorenko, also a centre, played for the QMJHL's Quebec Remparts last season, producing 85 points in 59 games, while Vasilevski, a goaltender, played at Russia's junior level with Tolpar Ufa.

All three players represented Russia at last year's IIHF

world junior championship.

Also on the roster are four other Canadian Hockey League players: defenceman Artem Sergeev and forward Anton Zlobin of the QMJHL's Val-d'Or Foreurs; goaltender Andrei Makarov of the Western Hockey League's Saskatoon Blades; and defenceman Andrey Pedan of the OHL's Guelph Storm.

Ticket packages for the Halifax portion of the series are on sale for \$86 via hockeycanada.ca. MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

On the web

For the full 29-player roster, visit Metro's Q Files blog at metronews.ca/qfiles.



Selection camp. Lanceleve and Saulnier receive Hockey Canada invites

Sackville's Breanna Lanceleve has earned an invitation to Hockey Canada's 40-player women's under-18 selection camp from Aug. 2 to 14 in Calgary.

Lanceleve, a five-foot-seven forward, was second in Nova Scotia Female Midget AAA Hockey League scoring with Halifax's Metro Boston Pizza last season, recording 45 points in 19 games.

Twenty-two players will be selected from the camp for a three-game series against the U.S. under-18 selects from Aug. 16 to 19 in Blaine, Minn.

Hockey Canada also named forward Jillian Saulnier of Halifax to its 40-player U-22 development-team camp, which runs concurrently with the



Breanna Lanceleve HANDOUT

U-18 camp.

Twenty-two players will be selected for a three-game series against the U.S. under-22 selects from Aug. 14 to 19 in Calgary.

Former Saint Mary's Huskies head coach Lisa Jordan of Westville will serve as the U-22 squad's head coach. METRO

Aim getting better with age

Soccer. Canada's captain Sinclair developed her game while keeping up with big brother

Whenever Mike Sinclair drives by the old house in Burnaby, B.C., he can't help but marvel at the fact it's still standing.

"It took a beating," Sinclair says with a laugh. "I don't know how it's still upright. But I guess that's what you get when you get two really competitive kids around the same age."

Those two kids were Mike and younger sister Christine, who would leave countless broken windows and scuffed walls in her wake en route to becoming Canada's finest women's soccer player.

"Oh God, our windows, our next-door neighbours' windows, the windows of our neighbours two houses down," he said. "We've broken more things."

The concrete basement floor of their three-bedroom house provided the perfect venue for everything from roller-hockey to golf to soccer.

Fast forward a couple of decades and Christine Sinclair's aim has definitely improved. The 29-year-old is Canada's leading goal-scorer and has the



Burnaby, B.C., native Christine Sinclair signs autographs after the championship game of the CONCACAF women's Olympic qualifying tournament against the United States at Vancouver's BC Place Stadium in January. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

third-most international goals in women's soccer history, trailing Americans Mia Hamm and Abby Wambach.

She'll lead a squad that will be playing for a medal on sport's grandest stage — the No. 7 Canadians will open the London Olympic Games against third-ranked Japan on July 25.

Trying to keep up with her

older brother on the streets and playgrounds over the years built a toughness in Sinclair that was well on display last summer, when the striker scored on a beautiful bending free kick against Germany at the women's World Cup moments after her nose was shattered. Canadian goalkeeper Erin McLeod said it looked "like a zigzag."

Her goal was the lone bright spot at an otherwise disastrous World Cup that saw the Canadians knocked out after the preliminary round without a win.

But Sinclair said spirits are high heading into London. The team hired Englishman John Herdman as head coach in the fall and went on to beat Brazil to win the Pan American

Games in October.

With 12 returnees from the Beijing Olympic team, Sinclair said Canada will field a squad that is wiser from its experiences in China.

"It was the first time our soccer team had qualified, and none of us had been there before and we were all inexperienced," Sinclair said. "The Olympics can be overwhelm-

Cup half empty

The Canadian women's team spent the past few months based in Vancouver, with training scheduled in three-week blocks with a week away in between to train at home.

• They spent several months before the World Cup in Rome, a grind that had players counting the days until they could go home.

• "Players were ready to go home.... That is not what your mindset should be at a World Cup or an Olympics," Sinclair said.

ing, but now that there's a core group of us who have been there before, we can sort of help the younger players know what to expect that we didn't know four years ago."

Such as not wasting energy chasing after superstar athletes.

"I remember our team four years ago trying to get pictures with people during times when normally in camp you'd be resting, lying in bed watching TV. But instead people were out stalking Lionel Messi and things like that. That needs to change." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Basketball. London likely last hurrah for Canadian women's captain Gabriele

Every morning for the past several years, Teresa Gabriele has crawled out of bed in pitch darkness to stock bread.

The alarm rings at 3:45 a.m. and she's in her first store in Abbotsford, B.C., by 4:30, when most people are still fast asleep.

Not the most glamorous work for Canada's women's basketball captain, but her job with her family's bread business has allowed her to pursue her Olympic dreams — and her appearance in London will be the punctuation mark on an illustrious career.

The 32-year-old point guard

from Mission, B.C., doesn't see her work as a sacrifice and scoffs at any suggestion she's put her life on hold.

"This is my dream and what I love to do, so this is what I'm doing right now," Gabriele said after a practice Tuesday at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto.

Gabriele has been the mainstay of Canada's women's team for more than a decade, and is the only remaining player from the 2000 Sydney Games, the last time a Canadian basketball team has stepped onto sport's biggest stage.

"I'm thinking of retiring after this, so it's a storybook ending for me," Gabriele said. "I started my career very early with an Olympics and then to be able to end it with an Olympics, it's awesome."

The Canadians qualified for the Games at the 11th hour, beating Japan in a must-win game in a last-chance qualifier on Canada Day to earn the final berth.

"We were just telling everybody we wanted to qualify on Canada Day," Gabriele laughed about their nail-biting run through qualifying.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Teresa Gabriele TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Pistorius finishes second in final tuneup in Italy

South African double-amputee sprinter Oscar Pistorius finished second in a 400-metre race in Italy on Tuesday, his final tune-up for the London Olympics. Pistorius clocked 46.56 seconds — well off the personal best of 45.07 he ran at the same meet last year — to finish behind Calvin Smith of the United States. Smith won in 45.52. PAOLO GIOVANNINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Track. Blake on 'right path' after winning final race before Games begin

Quoted

 "I didn't come here to run a quick time but it's still a fast time. Not many guys run 9.85." Yohan Blake

doing."

Only three-time Olympic champion Bolt (9.76) and 2004 Olympic winner Justin Gatlin (9.80) have run faster this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

Rain may go away for Games opening

The sun may, just may, shine on the London Olympics.

The Met Office, which forecasts the weather in one of the world's most fickle climates, said Tuesday the rain that has soaked England for

weeks and kept temperatures cool could give way to sunshine in time for the opening ceremony on July 27.

Apart from raining on London's parade, the weather has been worrying organizers of equestrian and rowing events, where venues have been waterlogged by weeks of constant rain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Lexus may have you voting y-ES



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Engines

The ES 350's powertrain is straightforward, consisting of a 268-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 accompanied by a six-speed automatic transmission that carries over virtually unchanged from the 2012 edition.

But, for 2013 it doesn't end there. A new ES 300h hybrid features a 156-horsepower 2.5-litre

four-cylinder gas engine that combines with a 141-horsepower electric motor to generate 200 net horsepower. Both function through a continuously variable transmission.

The hybrid borrows its powertrain from the Toyota Camry hybrid and represents a natural extension of the ES brand, especially since the recent demise of the Toyota-Prius-based HS 250h.

2013 Lexus ES 350/ES 300h

- **Type:** Four-door, front-wheel-drive midsize entry-luxury sedan.

- **Engines (hp):** 3.5-litre DOHC V6 (268); 2.5-litre DOHC 4 with electric motor (200, net).

- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 10.7/7.0 (3.5).

- **Base Price:** \$44,000 (est.)

Interior

Other than the primary tach and speedometer gauges, the dashboard's control centre is a busy spot, with numerous minute knobs and buttons handling ventilation, audio and communications tasks. Fortunately, the console-mounted Remote Touch Interface can manipulate much of these systems in a relatively uncomplicated manner.

Base content

Being in the luxury realm, the ES 350 starts out with considerable standard equipment including power moonroof, 10-way adjustable power front seats, backup monitor, push-button start and an eight-speaker audio system. There's also a Drive Mode selector with Normal, Eco, or Sport settings for the powertrain and steering system.

Review. It's about time the world regarded the ES as a real Lexus

**MALCOLM
GUNN**
Wheelbase Media

More style and substance are features the 2013 Lexus ES 350 can brag about. However the Toyota-Camry-based sedan can now include superlative fuel economy to its bag of tricks in the form of the gasoline-electric ES 300h hybrid.

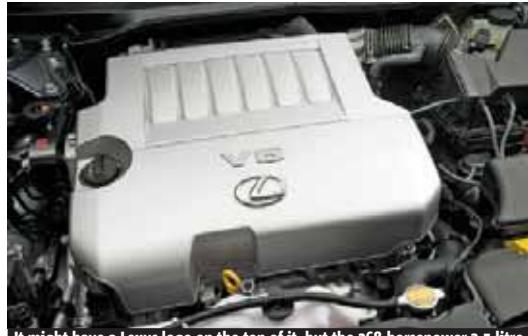
The ES has always enjoyed a sterling reputation with Lexus buyers as the fleet's go-to entry-luxury model, even though the sportier IS series is less expensive. But in this league, size counts for plenty and the longer, wider and roomier ES beats the pants off the IS in the space race.

For 2013, interior volume has been slightly increased due to the addition of about five centimetres between the

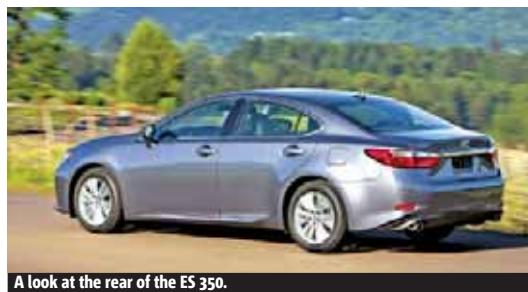
front and rear wheels. That adjustment makes the ES more livable, especially for rear-seat riders, but it's the car's outward appearance that's bound to make it a lot more likeable. Lexus's new character-building corporate face features a prominent lower air intake that first appeared on the GS sedan, along with restyled headlights and shapelier hood. It's a look that will show up on the rest of the fleet in due course.

In addition, the backside has been reworked to give the sedan a bit more bustle. The physical adjustments add considerable sparkle to what had been a design that for years was unnecessarily understated.

With its luxurious cabin environment, stress-free engine performance and trouble-free reliability, the ES should continue to garner serious consideration from entry-luxury shoppers. Dial in an invigorated redesign plus a fuel-sipper option and more folks than ever will like to vote y-ES.



It might have a Lexus logo on the top of it, but the 268-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 is also used in the Toyota Camry. The new hybrid drivetrain is also from the Camry hybrid.



A look at the rear of the ES 350.

By comparison



1 Lincoln MKZ
Base price: \$40,300



2 Audi A6
Base price: \$60,000



3 Cadillac CTS
Base price: \$38,800

5
DRIVE

Top Gear

That's right, jack

If you tow a medium to large trailer, you know what a hassle it is to use cinder blocks or pieces of wood to get the trailer to sit at the desired height. Where do you put the blocks when they're not in use, anyway? Attaching the sturdy Flip Jack Foot from Fastway products would appear to eliminate that problem.

When secured to the trailer's tongue jack, it automatically drops down when the jack is extended, thereby adding up to six extra inches in length.

It also automatically tucks up out of the way when the trailer jack is retracted. The Flip Jack Foot is available for 2 and 2.25-inch tongue jacks for \$50 US from the company at fastwaytrailer.com, which also shows a list of local dealers.

WHEELBASE

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2006 to 2010
BMW M5

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

From 2006 to 2010, the E60 generation of BMW's M5 sedan offered up a slew of performance upgrades to handle the 500-horsepower output of the most powerful factory 5-Series yet.

The M5 isn't a car for the faint of heart — and high fuel and insurance costs mean a more modest 5-Series model with a smaller engine may make more sense for most shoppers who don't require the services of one of the fastest four-door cars on the planet.

Common Issues

Ensure all electronics on the M5 you're considering are working as expected. Note that reports of a 'frozen' iDrive central command system aren't uncommon. Watch for warning indicators that may become illuminated on your test-drive, especially pertaining to the SMG transmission, if so equipped. Many owners have reported some level of problems with the computer brain that controls this sophisticated transmission. Some also report problems with the oil lines and solenoids that operate the engine's valve timing system in earlier years.

A full check of the M5's various (and complicated) electronics systems by a BMW service centre is key to confidence ahead of a purchase.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engine

The M5 came exclusively with a 5-litre V10 developing 500 horsepower. Manual or SMG transmissions were available, and all models were rear-wheel drive.

What Owners Like

The last-generation M5 was praised by its owners for looks, exclusivity, performance, thrills, comfort and a high-quality cabin. Supportive seats and the convenience of a sedan were also highly rated.

What Owners Dislike

Many owners report frustration with terrible fuel mileage, and a rough and awkward feel to the M5's SMG transmission.

Verdict

Many of its owners will verify that the M5 isn't a car that's ideal for those after fantastic fuel consumption or inexpensive repair bills. However, as a four-door rocket-sedan, it has virtually no equals.

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'12 Hyundai Elantra (Auto, 23k) **\$16,899**

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New record for motorcycles at Dover

Autopilot



AUTO

PILOT

Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Are you superstitious? I think I'm regular-stitious. I walk under ladders, but never carrying a black cat. Motorcyclists seem to be incredibly non superstitious. They think that the most superstitious date on the calendar — Friday the 13th — is the absolute bomb.

It's been a tradition since 1981 to drive your motorcycle to the resort town of Port Dover, Ont., on the shores of Lake Erie, every Friday the 13th, regardless of which month it falls on.

Every year it gets bigger, even the years when the "Black Fridays" show up on cooler months. With the last Friday the 13th of 2012 happening in July, and hot weather on the forecast, many predicted that this would be the biggest turnout ever. And it was.

About 50,000 motorcycles

and 150,000 people were the numbers I heard repeatedly. I didn't actually count all the bikes and on-lookers clogging the streets of Dover, because I was too busy getting heat stroke, or what I thought was heat stroke. Turns out I was instantly cured by an adult beverage and some pan-fried Perch at the Erie Beach Hotel. But suffice to say, you couldn't swing a stuffed animal, like say a cat, without hitting leather, chrome, or a large person with a bandana. So I didn't.

Funnily enough, our gang didn't arrive at Dover via bikes, or via cars. Our pal Kirby hosted us in nearby St. Williams, and dropped us off by boat.

Great fun but I wouldn't necessarily recommend the water route, as dock space on that day is super tight. But with so many people on the pier looking at every boat coming into the marina, I can now appreciate how Queen Elizabeth felt on her jubilee tour down the Thames.

It was my first Friday the 13th at Port Dover. Here are a few impressions and observations of the day, from this rookie attendee.



Last Friday, the 13th that is, saw roughly 50,000 motorcycles invade the town of Port Dover, Ont. MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO

- Very hot and humid, saved only by a slight breeze.

- Did I mention it was hot?

- A warm day meant a lot of skin was uncovered. As usual, this is good and bad.

- The vibe was awesome. All those bikes and all those people and all that heat and nobody was cranky or pushy.

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- The cruiser crowd, which prefers leather and Harley Davidson motorcycles, are definitely the majority, but there was solid representation from all motorcycle genres — sport bikes, vintage, touring, standards, trikes, etc.

- Huge police presence. But they didn't seem to have much to do, other than direct traffic.

- Port-a-potties and hot sun? Not a good combination.

- Very well organized. Only bikes allowed into and out of town by one road, and under the control of those efficient and courteous police officers.

People arriving by car have to park way out of town, in a designated farmer's field, and then get shuttled by school bus.

- Hundreds of bikes rolling into, or out of town, en masse, makes for great mechanical theatre — lots of flashy visuals, amazing soundtrack.

MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous

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Volunteers. Assuring smooth sailing for all events

JON
TATTRIE
For Metro

Organizing a massive event like Tall Ships requires a hard-working core of staff, and a huge cast of supporting volunteers. Tall Ships festivals around Nova Scotia are counting on citizens to pitch in. Jennifer Angel with the Tall Ships festival in Halifax says they have 20 staff and more than 500 volunteers.

"It's a huge commitment, both for our staff and volunteers. We began planning a year and a half ago," she says.

While staff handles the day-to-day work, the festival couldn't happen without the volunteers.

Ambassadors

- Known as "Tall Ships Ambassadors," more than 500 volunteers will be present around the waterfront to assist with Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012. Look for them in blue Tall Ships shirts and hats.

"Some have been with us since the beginning of the planning," she says.

"They do everything from support, ticket-taking to greeting and providing information, to more complicated roles."

The commitment ranges from a few hours manning

one of the waterfront tents during the festival to help visitors find what they are looking for to a bigger commitment to act as a ship's liaison. Those people are paired with a specific Tall Ship and work with them months ahead of time to make sure they have a good visit.

The bigger a role you take, the more enriching the experience will be, organizers say.

Volunteers come from all walks of life, including retirees who want to help out and Tall Ship enthusiasts who love the chance to meet with crews.

Other volunteers have served in the navy and want

to help their fellow sailors in port.

"Historically, it's provided a really good experience for volunteers. We have a lot of the same people each time the event comes to Nova Sco-

tia," Angel says.

"Tall Ships events are signature events for the city and province, and volunteers play a huge role in the success of the event," says Colin MacLean, president and CEO of

the Waterfront Development Corporation.

"Volunteers help us to welcome the ships, captains and crews to the ports, and showcase the best of Nova Scotia to residents and tourists."

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The Tall Ships last visited Halifax in 2009. METRO HALIFAX FILE PHOTO

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Journey. Local resident recounts memorable trip aboard a Tall Ship to canals of Amsterdam

**RICHARD
WOODBURY**
For Metro

Not everybody can say they have travelled through the canals of Amsterdam on a Tall Ship, but Charlotte Riley can.

For almost 30 years, the St. Margaret's Bay resident has volunteered at the Tall Ships in Halifax. In 2000, she was able to parlay that ex-

perience into a five-week trip that eventually took her to Amsterdam.

"We raced from Halifax to the Isle of Wight in the English Channel and then we went to Scheveningen, Holland, which is the port next to The Hague and we stayed there for 10 days," says Riley. "Then we took part in Sail 2000 in Amsterdam, which was a huge Tall Ships event."

The ship was the Dar Mlodziezy, a Polish merchant marine training vessel.

With her background as a French and Spanish teacher, Riley was asked to come along for the journey and teach Spanish to the roughly

90 cadets on board.

Also on board were about 30 merchant mariners, as well as a handful of paying tourists.

While Riley has many memories of the trip, a few stand out in particular, including a four- or five-day portion of the trip where because of the exceptional sailing conditions, the ship was speeding along at a 40-degree angle.

"To be under sail with absolutely no auxiliary power was amazing," says Riley.

Not surprisingly, sailing on a 40-degree angle had its advantages and disadvantages. While the ship set some

personal speed and distance records, it made life on board a little tricky.

"Everything was pretty much tied down," says Riley. "You end up sleeping in a little ball in one of the corners of your bunk, if you sleep at all."

For her teaching duties, the blackboard that was suspended from the ceiling became her anchor.

"I had to hang on to that blackboard for dear life as I was teaching," explains Riley.

All in all, sailing with another Tall Ships vessel is an experience Riley would gladly replicate in a heartbeat.

"Absolutely," she says.

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The Bluenose II sails out of Newport, R.I., towards its home base of Lunenburg, N.S., in July 2007. THE DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Events. Step aboard for a swashbuckling good time

THURSDAY, JULY 19

- **Noon to 5 p.m.**: Tall Ships are open to the public — \$5 per day for adults. Children younger than 12 are free when accompanied by an adult.
- **9:20 p.m.**: The sky over Halifax Harbour will be filled with fireworks.
- **9:30 p.m.**: The Academy Award-winning film *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* will be screened as part of the Arr Fresco Film-fest on the waterside of the Emera building. Free.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

- **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**: Tall Ships are open to the public for a small charge.
- **Noon to 3 p.m., and 8-10 p.m.**: Free live music at the Compass Rose Stage at Alderney Landing.
- **9:20 p.m.**: Fireworks at Halifax Harbour.
- **9:30 p.m.**: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl will be shown on the waterside of the Emera headquarters on Lower Water Street. Free.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

- **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**: Tall Ships

open to the public for a small fee.

- **1-4 p.m.**: Georges Island will play host to the Juno-nominated *Hey Rosetta!* Some VIP tickets remain.
- **9:20 p.m.**: Fireworks at Halifax Harbour.
- **9:30 p.m.**: White Squall will be screened on the waterside of Emera's headquarters. Free.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

- **7:30-10:30 a.m.**: Community fundraiser pancake breakfast at the CBC pavilion at Queen's Landing on the Halifax Waterfront. Donations to Feed Nova Scotia.
- **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**: Last day for which the Tall Ships will be open to the public.
- **9:30 p.m.**: The Bounty will be screened on the waterside of Emera's headquarters. Free.
- **10 p.m.**: Fireworks at Halifax Harbour.

MONDAY, JULY 23

- **Noon to 2 p.m.**: Say goodbye to the Tall Ships during the Parade of Sail as they head off to other ports or their next adventure. **RICHARD WOODBURY**

Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012

Some of the vessels that will appear during Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2012.

- **AMISTAD** — Flag: USA; Rig: Topsail Schooner.
- **APPLEDORE IV** — Flag: USA; Rig: Two-Masted Schooner.
- **APPLEDORE V** — Flag: USA; Rig: Two-Masted Schooner.
- **BLUENOSE II** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Gaff topsail.
- **CSS ACADIA** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Hydrographic Research Ship/Auxiliary Patrol Vessel.
- **GAZELA** — Flag: USA; Rig: Barquentine.
- **HMS BOUNTY** — Flag: USA; Rig: Full-rigged.
- **HMCS SACKVILLE** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Flower-class corvette.
- **MAR II** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Two-masted ketch.
- **LARINDA** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Schooner/Battened Lug Sails.
- **PEACEMAKER** — Flag: USA; Rig: Barquentine.
- **PICTON CASTLE** — Flag: Cook Islands; Rig: Barque.
- **PRIDE OF BALTIMORE II** — Flag: USA; Rig: Schooner.
- **SILVA** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Schooner.
- **SORCA** — Flag: Canada; Rig: Schooner.
- **UNICORN** — Flag: USA; Rig: Square topsail, gaff-rigged schooner.
- **USS PROVIDENCE** — Flag: USA; Rig: Square topsail sloop.



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- **Thursday, July 19** Regular weekday service, with extended service until 1:00am (last trip from Halifax departs 12:45am)
- **Friday, July 20** Regular weekday service, with extended service until 1:00am (last trip from Halifax departs 12:45am)
- **Saturday, July 21** Regular Saturday service, with extended service to 1:00am (last trip from Halifax departs 12:45am)
- **Sunday, July 22** 30 minute all day service, beginning at 9am from Alderney, until 1:00am (last trip from Halifax departs 12:45am)
- **Monday, July 23** Regular weekday service

Note: The Woodside Ferry will operate on its regular weekday schedule.

For more information on all transit services to the Tall Ships®, call the HRM Call Centre at **490-4000**, or visit www.halifax.ca/metrotransit

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